HUNGARIAN STATEHOOD MILLENNIUM

THE NEWS OF HUNGARIAN PHILATELY

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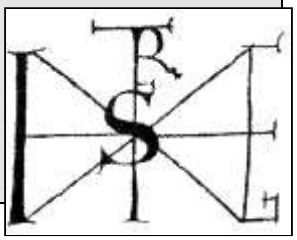

István Rex
King Saint Stephen's Monogram

SOCIETY FOR HUNGARIAN PHILATELY
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APS Affiliate 34
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The Society for Hungarian Philately (SHP) is a non-profit organization chartered under the laws of the State of Connecticut and is devoted to the study of every aspect of Hungarian philately. SHP publishes a quarterly newsletter in March, June, September, and December. Manuscripts for publication may be sent to the Society's address listed above. The articles published herein represent the opinions of the individual authors and the contents is not to be construed as official policy of this Society or any of its officers. All publication rights reserved for SHP. Articles from this journal may be reprinted with the written permission of the Editor and the authors only. Back issues of the newsletter may be purchased for $3.00, postpaid, (when available).

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Annual membership dues are **$15** for members whose addresses are in the United States and Canada and **$20** for all other, overseas members. Dues are payable in January in advance for the calendar year. Payment of dues entitles members to receive the newsletter, to participate in the sales circuit and the quarterly auctions, and to exercise voting rights.

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η This issue closed on 26 July 2000. η
ηη The next issue will close on 1 November 2000. ηη
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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By the time you read this, the APS STAMPSHOW 2000, scheduled to be held in Providence RI from August 24 to 27, will be over. Since this is prepared prior to the show, we are anxiously awaiting the last few moments before it begins! We hope to include a full report along with some photos in our next issue. The Executive Board meeting minutes will also be reported in accordance with our new bylaws.

Since HunPhilex 2000 and STAMPSHOW 2000 exhibit results will also be available only after the close of this newsletter, they will also be reflected in the next issue. I am going to try to solicit our Society's involvement at each of the future APS shows. Hopefully, our society can be guaranteed a set amount of frames for our participation. This will strengthen our efforts to allow our society members to exhibit in the APS sponsored shows. I look forward to be able to give a positive report in a future issue on this subject.

I found the article in the last issue titled *Open Questions Concerning The Early Krajcár-Denominated Tax Notice Forms* by Emmerich Vamos fascinating! This was an area of philately I had no exposure to and found the information very attention holding. Thanks, Emmerich, for a well-composed, interesting article!

As you can see from this issue, additional pages have been added to the newsletter when compared to the last issue. Many thanks not just to our editor for such an outstanding job in putting together this issue but also to the authors who are continuing to support us with new material for your reading enjoyment. Hopefully, our publication in the literature competition at STAMPSHOW will be accepted and judged as a world-class publication.

Our membership seems to have stabilized. Some members will be dropped for continued non-payment of dues, an unfortunate action. We do not wish to loose members but if they no longer have an interest in Hungarian philately, a kind response to our written reminders would assist us immensely.

We hope this issue finds you back into philately after the long hot summer activities. Until next time!

H. Alan Hoover

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CHAT WITH ALAN, Issue 4

"I am the world's greatest traveler! I travel from sea to sea, from pole to pole and back, in just a matter of days. I endure all kinds of weather; I travel light. Yes, I am only a postage stamp!"

In college I had to take a public speaking course. We were to pick a subject of our choice, compose a five-minute talk, and present it as our first speech. I was terrified! Me? Speak in front of all those people? Was I nervous! But, the above phrase borrowed from my H. E. Harris album set the stage. It captured the audience's attention for what I had to say. Once I came in with a bang, I had their attention!

I continued to describe many things about philately, what a mint stamp and a used stamp was, what collecting First Day of Issues meant and what a plate block was. Thirty-five minutes later, I sat down.

So often we criticize ourselves for not knowing as much as someone else. We think they are more knowledgeable and can do something better than we can. But I would bet that all of you know a lot on various subjects, and that includes your philatelic knowledge. Is it possible for any and all of you to share some of this knowledge with our society's members?

It is my constant (and pleasant) campaign to assist our editor in obtaining new material for publication in our quarterly journal, **The News**. Won't you assist by submitting some of your work? Won't you help our society members share the learning that you had acquired by submitting that material?

But, how does one go about it? Well, one can just sit down and start thinking of ideas and putting down key thoughts on a page. Then, at a later time, one can come back, look at the outline, and start to fill in other thoughts below them. This will start your process. Or, if you are not a writer al all, you could call on a member of the executive board that you feel comfortable with and see if they would take some notes on your thoughts. Then further develop those thoughts for submission to our editor.

Oh, yes, although I was severely criticized for having such a 'lengthy' first speech, I got an "A+." And, wouldn't you know the class paid close attention to every other speech I gave after that!

As my best friend Ray always ended, *Keep Stampin'*!

H. Alan Hoover

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KUDOS & WELCOME

Congratulations to **Emmerich Vamos** for his induction into the MAFITT Society last April. Mr. Vamos's philatelic thesis was based on the study of tax notice forms published in the Mar-Jun 2000 issue of **The News**.

Congratulations to Dr. **Paul J. Szilagyi** for winning the Les Gróf Literature Award for 1999 with his series of articles *Notes on the Hungarian Sea Post*. The award is presented annually by the Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain and is based on a vote by the membership.

Congratulations to the SHP exhibitors who won awards recently. Dr. **Paul J. Szilagyi** won a gold medal at the 73rd Stamp Day exhibit in Székesfehérvár, Hungary with *The Heroic Beginnings of Hungarian Airmail*. Based on his 1999 exhibition successes, Dr**. Szilagyi** also received the travelling airmail trophy named in honor of Ferenc Nagy. **Alfred F. Kugel** received three Ameristamp awards: a gold for *The US Postal Agency in Shanghai: Registered Mail 1899-1922*; a vermeil for *Romanian Administration of Transnistria 1941-1944*, a silver-bronze *for The Romanov Tercentenary Jubilee*. **Mr. Kugel** also won gold and the APS research medal at the St. Louis Expo with *The Expansion of Greece 1897-1922* and another gold at Ropex with *American Intervention in the Caribbean*. Three members participated successfully at the London Stamp Show 2000. **Donald E. Green** was awarded a gold for *Patent Medicine Companies*; **Alfred Kugel** also received a gold with *The Allied Intervention in Russia 1918-1925*; and Dr. **Andrew Munster** received a vermeil with *The Hungarian Inflation Period of 1945-1946*. **Donald E. Green** won a gold *with Patent Medicine Companies of the Civil War and Reconstruction Era* and **Alfred Kugel** received a vermeil /*continued on p. 30.*/

SEMANTICS: 'OCCUPATION' *vs.* 'LOCAL' ISSUES OF 1918-1921

Mr. **Dezsö Flasch**'s writings in the 1999 Stamp Day Program brochure prompted me to try to categorize these issues and to open up some dialogue in generating a consensus, at least within our Society. Mr. Flasch is an internationally known specialist in the stamps of this era and his expertization mark is an accepted guarantee of genuineness in the jungle of mass-counterfeited overprints. Erstwhile, Mr. Flasch's interpretation represents the 'purist' definition of what is an 'occupation' issue *vice* an issue of a successor state, several of which utilized basic Hungarian stamps with an overprint to indicate new sovereignty. His opinion also is in accordance with the listings contained in the **Magyar Posta- és Illetékbélyeg Katalógus/*Catalog of Hungarian Postage and Revenue Stamps*** and the **Magyar Bélyegek Kézikönyve/*Handbook of Hungarian Stamps***. On the opposite side of the coin, Chris Brainard's **Catalog of Hungarian Occupation Stamps** employs a broader-based definition of accepting 'anything on a Hungarian stamp' and lists all of these issues under the terminology of 'occupation' stamps. The collector is left up to his/her discretion to pick and chose.

In the communist era of Hungarian philately (1948-1989), collecting of these issues was, at best, frowned upon, at worst, strictly forbidden. In this vacuum, several prominent members of our Society (Chris Brainard, Leslie Ettre, Kalman Illyefalvy, and Paul Szilagyi to name just a few of them), pioneered research efforts in the 1970s and 1980s to pull together whatever contemporary information existed about these issues and to further the new findings in these areas. Coupled with an occasional article or handbook that was published in Hungary, a clearer picture concerning these issues started to emerge. In the past decade of the 1990s, philatelic interest in these occupation issues seems to have exploded both in Hungary and worldwide.

My treatise is to try to classify these issues into one of three categories: occupation, local, or Successor State. Right away, naming these categories is controversial because the two Hungarian references cited above literally call all of these issues as 'local' (sic, *helyi kiadások*). Geographically speaking, that is correct because the utilization of most 'occupation' stamps was restricted to a certain, pretty well defined locality. What constitutes a true 'occupation' issue *vice* 'local' issue? And, when does an overprinted Hungarian stamp become an issue of a Successor State?

Starting in 1918, Hungarian stamps were overprinted by Italian, Croatian, Serb, Rumanian, Czecho-Slovak, French, and Austrian authorities, some of whom were representatives of an official government or of a military force or of a postal directorate or just plain village entrepreneurs. In making a proper determination, one must account for the various lines of demarcation commanded by the French following the armistice agreement signed on 3 November 1918 up to the signing of the Treaty of Trianon on 4 June 1920. The cease-fire agreements stipulated the lines of demarcation in southern and southeastern Hungary between the Hungarian and French, Serbian or Rumanian forces. There was no demarcation line established in northern Hungary with the Czech forces, who occupied territory on their own initiative. In the spring of 1919, the Hungarian Red Army pushed the Czech forces back,

but then withdrew to behind a *de facto* demarcation line. In my opinion, between the date of the Armistice and the signing of the Treaty of Trianon, any portion of historical Hungary under the control of foreign jurisdiction, whether it was military or civilian, could be considered as being 'occupied.' If Hungarian stamps were overprinted during this time under the direction of foreign authorities (military or civilian government), then they should be considered as occupation issues. If they were overprinted through local initiatives (speculative or patriotic), then they should be considered as 'local' issues. Following the signing of the Treaty of Trianon, the state of war between Hungarian half of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and the Entente Powers ceased, but parts of rump Hungary remained 'occupied.' True 'occupation' stamps continued to be issued in these areas. I'd like to review all of these issues, in a counter-clockwise motion around the map of historical Hungary. If the overprints were authorized by the postal authorities in a successor state OR the postal validity of the issues extended beyond the borders of historical Hungary OR the Hungarian postal authorities recognized the stamps as being valid, then the issues should be reconsidered as those of the successor state. Obviously, the criteria are convoluted; and controversies or exceptions arise when applying them uniformly.

The table below lists all of the issues in chronological order. There is some discrepancy between the issue dates quoted in the MPIBK and in the Brainard catalog as well as obvious errors. I tried to correct this. The entry in the 'category' column is my 'best guess' determination. I've inserted some key historical dates from information previously prepared by Dr. Ettre and Dr. Szilagyi in order to synchronize the stamp issues with contemporary events.

Issue Authority	**Locality**	**Issue Date**	**Category**	**[1]**
4 October 1918: Austria-Hungary asks for an armistice from the Entente.				
16 October 1918: Emperor/King Karl/Károly issues the 'People's Manifesto' to develop a federation of independent nation-states within the Monarchy.				
18 October 1918: Croatia-Slavonia along with Slovenia elects to secede from the Monarchy.				
23 October 1918: Fiume garrison mutinies and declares the city a part of Croatia				
31 October 1918: Republic is declared in Hungary				
3 November 1918: Austro-Hungarian Monarchy signs armistice agreement in Padua				
9 November 1918: The Rumanian National Council of Transylvania meets in Arad				
12 November 1918: The Republic of German-Austria declared				
13 November 1918: The Károlyi-government signs the Armistice of Belgrade				
15 November 1918: The Rumanian army occupies the Maros River line in Transylvania and Serb troops occupy Pécs & Baranya County.				
National Council of Czechoslovakia	Szakolca/Skalica 'Cesko-slovenská Státni Posta' overprint prepared in Prague	15 Nov. 1918	Local	CS
17 November 1918: Croatians abandon Fiume, Italian navy sails into the city.				
18 November 1918: Serbian military completes the occupation of Croatia south of the Dráva River and seizes the Town of Pécs and the Baranya triangle.				

Croatian National Council	Croatia-Slavonia SHS overprint	18 Nov. 1918	Successor State	YU
Rev. P. Jehlicska	Budapest ovpt. 'Slovenska Posta'	November 1918	Local	CS
Military Control Commission	Fiume overprint on Hungarian stamps	2 Dec. 1918	Occupation / transition to Successor State	F
1 December 1918: The Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (SHS) is formed				
1 December 1918: The meeting in Gyulafehérvár/Alba Iulia declares the union of Transylvania with the Kingdom of Rumania.				
Private / Speculative issue	Vienna overprint 'Respub-lica Cesko-Slovenska'	1919	Local	CS
Dr. Vavro Srobár, minister of the Slovak Nat'l Council	Srobár-issue used around Csorba-tó/Strbské Pleso, prepared in Prague	January 1919	Local	CS
Military Control Commission	Fiume stamps of original design	January 1919	Successor State	F
Ensign Gobcevic, Serb Military	Muraszerdahely	3 Jan. 1919	Local	YU
Count Matzenau / speculative	Pártosfalva	January 1919	Local	YU
Serbian Military	Zombor	8 Feb. 1919	Local	YU
Serbian Military	Ada	15 Feb 1919	Local	YU
Rezsö Valic / speculative	Csáktornya	24 Feb. 1919	Local	YU
Rumanian Military Government	Nagyszeben/Southwestern Transylvania	15 March 1919	Local	RO
Jean Oddor, Bucharest dealer	Borosjenö	1919	Local	RO
21 March 1919: The fall of the Károlyi-government, the establishment of the Soviet Republic under Béla Kún.				
23 April 1919: Debrecen occupied by Rumanian troops.				
1 May 1919: The trans-Tisza territory occupied by Rumanian troops.				
French Military	Arad	5 May 1919	Occupation	RO
Serbian Military, Officially sanctioned by Budapest authority	Baranya I.	5 May 1919	Occupation	HU
Serbian Military	Temesvár I.	15 May 1919	Occupation	RO
Lajos Varjassy, Minister of Com-merce, with the per-mission of the French Military	Szeged	26 June 1919	Occupation	HU

Serbian Military	Temesvár II	1 July 1919	Occupation	RO
Serbian Military	Bácsszenttamás	25 July 1919	Local	YU
Local Hungarian Postal Authority	Bánát-Bácska	27 July 1919	Local	RO
21-31 July 1919: Temesvár/Bánát-Bácska 'independent' between Serbian evacuation and Rumanian occupation.				
1 August 1919: The collapse of the Hungarian Soviet Republic.				
3 August 1919: Budapest occupied by Rumanian troops.				
Local postmaster with permission from Temesvár	Homokbálványos/Porto provisional postage due overprints	August 1919 thru Jan. 1920	Local	YU
Local postmaster	Fehértemplom/Franco provisional overprint on postage due stamps	August (?) 1919	Local	YU
Lt. Svetec, Serbian Military	Belantinc	August 1919	Local	YU
Rumanian Postal Authority	Kolozsvár	3 August 1919	Occupation / transition to Successor State	RO
Serbian Military	Pancsova	5 August 1919	Local	YU
Rumanian Army	Temesvár III.	17 August 1919	Occupation	RO
Serbian Military	Lendvavásárhely	22 Aug. 1919	Local	YU
12 September 1919: D'Annunzio's legionnaires occupy Fiume				
Rumanian Military	Budapest	October 1919	Local	HU
Rumanian Postal Authority	Nagyvárad	26 October 1919	Occupation / transition to Successor State	RO
Private / speculative issue	Baranya III ('VI' ovprt)	October 1919	Local	HU
13 November 1919: Rumanian military evacuates Budapest.				
16 November 1919: The Hungarian National Army commanded by Admiral Miklós Horthy enters Budapest.				
Rumanian Military	Debrecen I.	20 Nov. 1919	Occupation	HU
Czechoslovak Postal Authority	Posta Ceskoslovenska	12 Dec. 1919	Successor State	CS
Serb Military	Baranya II.	15 Dec. 1919	Occupation / Officially sanctioned by Budapest authorities	HU

Serb Military	Perlak	22 Dec. 1919	Local	YU
Rumanian Military	Debrecen II.	23 Dec. 1919	Occupation	HU
Rumanian Major Boboiceanu	Debrecen / Boboiceanu issue	March 1920	Local	HU
Local Postmaster	Villány Provisional	1920	Local	HU
1 March 1920: Admiral Miklós Horthy elected Regent of the Kingdom of Hungary.				
20 March 1920: Rumanian military occupation of Debrecen ends.				
4 June 1920: Signing of the Treaty of Trianon.				
26 March-4 April 1921: King Károly's first attempt to reclaim the Hungarian throne				
14 August 1921: The Hungarian-Serb Republic of Baranya-Baja declared.				
20 August 1921: Serbian military occupation of Baranya ends.				
August 1921: Insurgents lead by Pál Prónay infiltrate Western Hungary and establish independent Lajtabánság on 4 October 1921.				
Insurgent Army of Western Hungary	Lajtabánság	Several series starting on 4 Sep. through 21 Dec. 1921	Local	AU
11 October 1921: Meeting of foreign ministers in Venice resolves the future of Lajtabánság and authorizes the Sopron plebiscite.				
20-31 October 1921: King Károly's second attempt to regain the Hungarian throne.				
14 December 1921: Sopron plebiscite, the city votes to stay with Hungary.				
Private / speculative issue	Jennersdoft issue prepared in Graz, Austria /Austrian Eagle ovpt. on Hungarian stamps/	1921	Local	AU
Private/ speculative issues	*Burgenlands Befrieung* and *Burgen/land* ovpt. on Austrian stamps	1921	Local	AU
22 February 1924: Fiume annexed by Italy.				

Footnote:

[1] The letters in this column indicate the country that the particular stamp issuing region belonged to following the 1919-1920 peace treaties. AU=Austria; CS=Czechoslovakia; RO=Rumania; YU=Jugoslavia; F=Fiume; HU=Hungary

The cease fire agreements (signed initially by the military command in Italy on 3 November 1918 and by the Hungarian government in Belgrade on the 13th) stipulated that the postal services in the areas of historical Hungary occupied by Allied armies would remain in the hands of the Hungarian postal administration. The occupying authorities specifically were not authorized to alter (overprint) any postage stamps on their own initiative. Using this legal interpretation, the Hungarian postal authorities in Budapest refused to recognize all but three issues as proper postage stamps. Those that were accepted were the overprints of Croatia (SHS), Fiume, and Baranya. (Ironically, the forgers of the 'occupation' overprints avoided criminal prosecution in the 1920s and 1930s by claiming that there were not 'creating' or

faking legal postage stamps, Hungarian or otherwise. It is also interesting to note that the Hungarian post office almost had to prosecute itself for the Szeged issue, but more on this later.)

Politically, Fiume was an integral part of the Crown of Hungary separated geographically by the semi-independent Kingdom of Croatia-Slavonia. On the day (October 28, 1918, which more or less coincided with Croatia's declaration of independence) the Hungarian garrison, made up mostly of Croatian ethnics, abandoned the city, the port city declared its intention to join Italy. (The population was split between Italians and Croatians.) In order to prevent this, Croatian volunteers seized the city, which became a part of Croatia for a couple of weeks. However, the Allies objected and sent in a military Control Commission, which included Italians, on 18 November 1918. The Commission restored the civilian postal service and overprinted the available stock of Hungarian stamps. Thus, these issues should be considered as 'occupation' stamps because military force was used to alter the sovereignty of the territory. Secret treaties signed during the war awarded the territory to the South Slavs, but the Treaty of Rapallo concurred with the Italian annexation. (The South Slavs were awarded the eastern half of the area around the town of Susak. The treaty intended to allow the Italians and the Slavs to manage the port jointly.) During this wrangling over who gets what, Italian poet Gabrielle d'Annuzio and his legionnaires, acting without support from Rome, seized the city on 12 September 1919 and claimed it for Italy. They also occupied several neighboring islands in the Bay of Carnaro (Arbe on 13 November 1919 and Veglia on 5 January 1920), which they held for about a year. /*See the write-up of their stamp issues in the Jan-Mar 2000 issue of* ***The News***./ In actuality, D'Annunzio established a *de facto* city-state in Fiume governed by a Constitutional Assembly, which first met of 24 April 1921. Fiume continued to issue stamps until 1924 (starting with stamps of original design to replace the Hungarian overprints in January 1919) when, with the advent of fascism, the Slavs acquiesced to its annexation by Italy. The Hungarian postal authorities, realizing the facts of Fiume's population mix and its geographic separation from Hungary, never disputed the validity of these stamps as being those of a successor state. Hence, the overprinted Hungarian stamps, which initially met the definition of an 'occupation' issue, transitioned into being accepted as an issue of a successor state.

Fiume Overprint / Fiume Original Design Stamp / SHS Overprint for Croatia-Slavonia

Historically, Croatia (including the eastern region called Slavonia) was a separate kingdom under the Hungarian Crown. As a part of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, it had its own legislature as well as representatives in the Hungarian Diet in Budapest. Zagreb declared its separation from the Hungarian Crown on 29 October 1918; and one month later joined the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes under King Peter of Serbia. The politics of separation were not contested by the Károlyi government. Within days, existing stocks of Hungarian stamps were overprinted 'SHS' for use in Croatia-Slavonia. Thus, the postal decision to recognize this issue as an issue of a successor state reflected political reality. The overprinted stamps were valid until April 1919 and were used with non-overprinted Hungarian stamps.

The six overprints which appeared in the Medjimurje and the Prekomurje regions of Croatia (part of this region is inside Slovenia today) all belong in the 'local' category. Four (the issues of Muraszerdahely/Mursko Sredisce, Perlak/Prelog, Belatinc/Beltinci, and Lendvavásárhely/Dobrovnik) were created during the occupation of towns and villages by Serb soldiers as the areas of occupation kept expanding into historical Hungary. Two overprints (Pártosfalva/Prosenjakovci and Csáktornya/Cakovec) were created out of patriotic motivation to show a desire to change allegiance, as to being a part of Croatia. The use of these issues was tolerated on letters but the distribution seldom extended beyond a couple of town or villages.

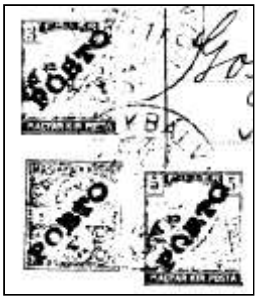
The Overprints of Muraszerdahely/Mursko Sredisce, Perlak/Prelog, Belatinc/Beltinci

Lendvavásárhely/Dobrovnik, Pártosfalva/Prosenjakovci, Csáktornya/Cakovec

The Bánát region west of the Tisza River had an ethnically mixed population of Serbs, Rumanians, Germans, and Hungarians. Serbian soldiers belonging to the Balkan Army of the Entente commanded by the French Gene-

ral Franchet d'Esprey occupied the region, including principal town of Temesvár. The locally initiated Ada, Zombor/Sombor, and the Pancsova/ Pancevo issues appeared early during the occupation. The Bácsszenttamás/ Srbobran was a speculative issue to commemorate the visit of Serbian Crown Prince Alexander with the troops. The Homokbálványos/ Banavista provisional postage due overprints (along with the lesser known Fehértemplom/Bela Crvka 'franco' overprints) were strictly local in nature, generated out of true necessity (Homokbálványos) but influenced by possible speculation (Fehértemplom). The first two Temesvár issues were official issues under Serbian occupation. When the mapmakers decided to award a part of the agriculturally fertile region to Rumania, the Serbs evacuated Temesvár. In the interval between the Serb evacuation and the Rumanian occupation, the local Hungarian postal authorities overprinted stamps in order to raise money for the salaries of postal personnel. Thus, the Bánát-Bácska overprints were created. This issue did not see any postal use, and it's a misnomer to call it 'occupation' issue. It is strictly a locally initiated issue created without authorization from Budapest at a time when there were no foreign armies in the city. The fourth set of overprints produced in Temesvár appeared two weeks after the Rumanian occupation.

The Overprints of Ada, Zombor/Sombor, and Pancsova/Pancevo



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diagonal FRANCO overprint 19mm long

Bácsszenttamás/ Srbobran Homokbálványos/ Banavista, Fehértemplom/Bela Crvka

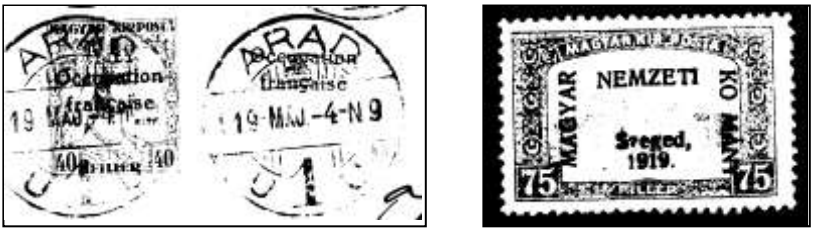
It's interesting to note from the chronological listing that, with the exception of the SHS and Fiume overprints, only a smattering of privately produced overprints existed until May of 1919. By that time, unoccupied Hungary had become a Soviet Republic (the Republic of the Councils was established on 21 March 1919) under Commissar Béla Kun. Also, the Hungarian Red Army had achieved military victories against the Czech in the

north, contributed to the establishment of the Slovak Republic of the Councils, and was mobilizing to face the Rumanians moving into the Great Hungarian Plain. In order to cordon off the red menace, the Entente decided to firm up its occupation of the regions under their control and assert the same with postage stamp issues. The Arad, Baranya I, Szeged, Temesvár, and Kolozsvár overprints appeared within three months of each other.

The Overprints of Temesvár (Serb), Bánát-Bácska, and Temesvár (Rumanian)

The Arad and the Szeged (*see the following article by Dr. Szilagyi*) issues were approved and prepared under the supervision of the French army. No question here that both of these are 'occupation' issues. The irony is in the text of the Szeged overprint, which states '*Magyar Nemzeti Kormány*' (Hungarian National Government). It was a government in name only. The legal government was in Budapest, and the 'national army' was moving into Transdanubia still awaiting the appointment of a commander. (The **Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog** listed both the Szeged and the Bánát-Bácska issues in the chronological listing of Hungarian stamps well into the 1970s. Only then were they moved to the back of the listings correctly reserved for 'local' stamp issues.)

Incongruously, the legality of the Szeged issue became a political hot potato in the early 1920s. On 1 February 1920, the Minister of Commerce issued an edict declaring invalid all illegally overprinted Hungarian stamps without realizing that the Szeged issue was included. Three years later, after convoluted legal backpedalling, the Szeged issue retroactively was declared a legal issue of Hungary, but it doesn't alter its true 'occupation' nature.



The Overprints of Arad and Szeged

Categorizing the Kolozsvár and the Nagyvárad issues presents a problem. Scott lists these as Hungarian occupation issues. Some European catalogs concur, others list the issues with Rumanian stamps. The central die for the combined Rumanian royal monogram and PTT emblem was provided by

by the authorities from Bucharest. It was based on the one used to overprint the King Ferdinand stamps commemorating the acquisition of Transylvania (Rumania Scott #245-7 issued on 8 November 1918). The actual annexation was declared at Gyulafehérvár/Alba Iulia on 1 December 1918. By this time, the Rumanian army had occupied southern and eastern Transylvania along the line of the Maros River. In the next few days, the Rumanians crossed the Maros and advanced the demarcation line approximately 50km westwards. On 19 March 1919, Colonel Vyx handed a directive to President Károlyi demanding that the Hungarians evacuate additional, Hungarian-inhabited territory. Károlyi found this ultimatum unacceptable and resigned, handing over power to the Communists, who established the Soviet Republic. This turmoil was exploited by the Rumanians to exert their claim for still more Hungarian territory. They crossed the previous demarcation line on 19 April 1919 and captured Debrecen within a few days. The Hungarian Red Army attacked the Rumanians along the Tisza River on July 20th, but the front collapsed in the face of the Rumanian counterattack on July 24th. Next, the Rumanians crossed the Tisza on July 30th and continued to advance toward Budapest, which they occupied on 3 August 1919. (Kun's Soviet Republic collapsed on August 1st.) Although the overprinting started in May and was completed by June 26th, the appearance of the Kolozsvár stamps was held up for a month. The stamps were finally issued coincidentally with the occupation of the Hungarian capital. At first impression, the Kolozsvár overprints were intended to be a true 'occupation' issue. The Rumanian postal officials from Bucharest authorized the overprinting of the stamp supply found in 'captured' Hungarian post offices throughout Transylvania. As in the case of the Fiume overprints, the stamps' status transitioned to that of an issue of a successor state but for a different reason. The overprints were given postal validity throughout Greater Rumania until 1 January 1922. In reality, they were rarely used outside of Transylvania. While the Fiume overprints achieved acceptance by the Hungarian postal authorities, such was not the case with the Kolozsvár overprints. The conclusions reached concerning the Kolozsvár issues also apply to the Nagyvárad overprints.

ccup ani and Nagyvárad/Oradea

The two local issues of Transylvania appeared many months before the Kolozsvár/Nagyvárad overprints. The so-called Nagyszeben issue was prepared under the direction of a military governor in the area. The Nagyszeben over-

prints were used in several larger towns (Borosjenö, Déva, Gyulafehérvár, and even Hódmezövásárhely in southeastern Hungary). The Borosjenö issue represents a private, speculative initiative by a Bucharest stamp dealer.

While the Budapest occupation overprints may seem to be true 'occupation' stamps, they should be categorized as speculative, local issues. Although the Rumanian military initiated the overprinting, it was without authorization and with local initiative only.

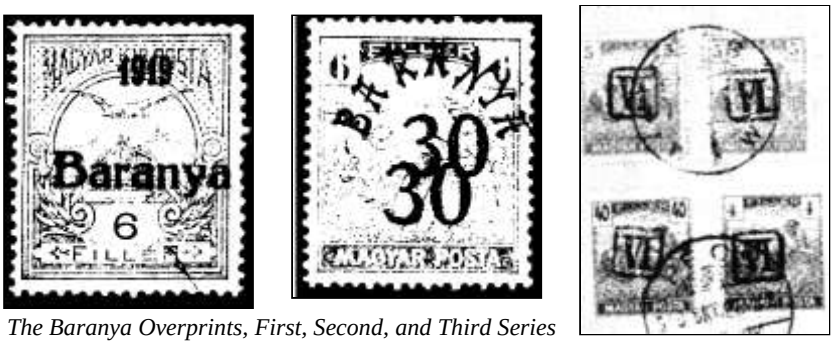
The Overprints of Nagyszeben, Borosjenö, and Budapest

After the evacuation of Budapest on 13 November 1919, the Rumanians slowly withdrew from the region between the Danube and Tisza Rivers. However, they were determined to stay in eastern Hungary as long as possible and set up a zone of occupation east of the Tisza River (but separate from the occupied Transylvanian area. The Debrecen I and II series were prepared after a joint Rumanian-Hungarian Administrative Council was established on 20 October 1919. The Debrecen I overprints were issued on 20 November 1919. The Debrecen II series, which was issued on 23 December 1919, represented stamps of original design printed in Nagyvárad and overprinted with the circular occupation seal in Debrecen. There is no disputing the 'occupation' nature of these issues. (Just prior to the end of military occupation, which lasted until 20 March 1920, Major Boboiceanu, who was responsible for postal matters, surreptitiously overprinted Hungarian stamps with the circular seal used for the II. series. Most of these stamps were confiscated, but some reached the philatelic market as 'overprint proofs.')

The Overprints of Debrecen (First and Second Issue) and Major Boboiceanu

The Baranya I series appeared after the regional postal directorate of Pécs requested permission to issue new stamps in order to alleviate the stamp

shortages and to generate postal revenue. (During the early period of Serbian occupation, Pécs maintained communications with Budapest and received postal supplies. With the establishment of the Soviet Republic, the supplies ceased to follow. The Serb authorities overprinted the circulating currency in the occupation zone to differentiate it from the worthless 'whiteback' currency of the Budapest government. This mix of currencies caused speculation with postage stamps resulting in revenue losses to the postal administration in Pécs.) Permission to issue overprints was granted on March 30th, but it's not clear that Budapest authorized the overprinting of the entire stamp stock, including the re-activation of obsolete stamps, e.g., the Turul design. So, it's fairly safe to conclude that the Baranya I series represents an approved Hungarian occupation issue. Similarly, the Baranya II series was prepared to generate revenue for postal salaries. Again, it represents an occupation issue. The third Baranya series, consisting of stamps 'overprinted' with the Roman numeral VI, is often overlooked. These stamps were a private, speculative issue that was the brainchild of the members of the Philatelic Club of Pécs. The Villány postmaster's provisional (*negyven fill* overprint on 10f stamped envelope) was created out of necessity and may be the scarcest of the local issues (*see p.21*).



The Baranya Overprints, First, Second, and Third Series

The Slovak National Council declared its intention to separate from Hungary on 30 October 1918 at its meeting in Túrócszentmárton/Turciansky Svaty Martin. The region's southern border was established by the armistice on 23 June 1919 following squirmishes with the Hungarian Red Army. Several issues (Skalica, Srobár, Budapest, and Vienna overprints) appeared, which are identified in a mixed fashion by the authority that prepared the stamps or where they were produced. All of these issues saw very limited distribution. The Budapest issue, for example, was advocating an independent Slovakia and was prohibited by the Czechoslovak Post. Postage due stamps were created in the early part of 1919 by stamping the letters 'T,' 'D,' 'Porto' or 'Doplatit' on Hungarian stamps, but they are more likely to be classed as 'provisional postage due' stamps rather than 'occupation' issues. Such varieties are known to have been used in Érsekújvár/Nové Zámky.

The Posta Cechoslovenska overprints are indisputably Successor State issues. Hungarian and Austrian postage remnants, having lost their postal validity on 28 February 1919, were collected and overprinted by Czech postal authorities in Prague. The overprinted stamps, which were issued on 12 December 1919 and sold for 50% over face value, were valid through the entire

country even though the borders of which were not formally established by peace treaties as yet.

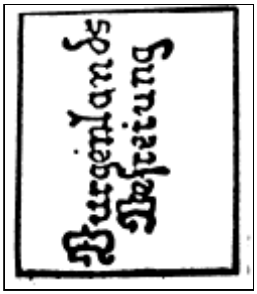
The Overprints of Szakolca/Skalica, Srobar, and Slovenska Posta (Budapest)

Illustration from Michel catalog: 'T' on a Czech stamp.

Vienna & Prague 'Ceskoslovenksa' Overprints, Érsekújvár/Nové Zámky Postage Due

The Lajtabánság/Western Hungary issues of 1921 are all local in nature. In disputing the award to Austria by the peace treaty, Hungarian insurgents occupied the area and skirmished with Austrian gendarmes trying to take possession. Some overprints were produced in the territory of the *banate*, other stamps were prepared in Budapest or Vienna. The same argument holds for the privately initiated 'Austrian eagle,' 'Burgenlands Befreiung' and the two-line 'Burgenland' speculative, fantasy overprints, which appeared after the evacuation by Hungarian insurgents. For the sake of an argument, a case might be made for the Sopron Plebiscite issue to be an 'occupation' issue. Sopron was originally part of the territory to be ceded to Austria, but was retained by Hungary following a plebiscite. Still, I would rather lump it into the 'local' issue category.

Overprinted Stamps of Lajtabánság



Privately Issued Fantasy Overprints of Burgenland

In conclusion, I would like to re-iterate that I did not intend to evaluate the complex postal history of this period, only to identify and categorize the different sources of the 'occupation/local' issues. In reality, basic Hungarian stamps served as postage in most of the occupied areas. (László Filep pointed out an interesting Baranya occupation cover in a recent issue of **Bélyegvilág** with mixed franking of Royal Hungarian, Hungarian Soviet Republic, and Baranya occupation postage.) So, many combinations of mixed franking occurred. However, the general utilization of these post-World War I overprints was limited to the immediate, respective occupied areas.

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Zalavári, István, et al., **Magyar Posta- és Illetékbélyeg Katalógus**, Philatelia Hungarica, 2000.

Csaba L. Kohalmi

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STAMPS OF THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT
Magyar Nemzeti Kormány, Szeged, 1919 Overprints

by **Dr. Paul J. Szilagyi**

Brief Historical Background

On March 21,1919, the Government of the Hungarian Republic resigned. The reason was that the victorious Allies and several of the neighboring states had demanded the occupation of additional territories beyond the large portions of Hungary proper that they were already occupying with their armies. A new government took over on March 22nd. The left wing, communist government declared the *Magyar Tanács Köztársaság*, the Hungarian Republic of the Councils. The government, headed by Béla Kun and Tibor Samuelly, did manage to field an army and to fight the Czech interventionists on the north and the Rumanian Army on the east.

Meanwhile, the right-wing opposition and the remaining officers of the old Hungarian Army gathered in the city of Arad, which was under French occupation. There a nationalist, counter-government was established on May 5th. The nationalist army groups consisted of several thousand officers of the Austro-Hungarian army. The ordinary soldiers, who came back from the front or from POW camps, were demoralized and were not to be trusted. Their arms were confiscated before the soldiers were sent home.

Since the Rumanian Army was about to occupy Arad, the counter-government decided to move westward to the city of Szeged some 50 miles away on May 9th. The Rumanians, however, interned the contingent's train for two weeks at Mezõhegyes. As a result, the counter-government did not arrive in Szeged until May 23rd. At this time, both Szeged and Arad were occupied by the French Army. In Budapest, the Soviet Republic was in charge until August 2nd.

On June 6th, General Goudrecourt, who was formerly in charge of the Arad French contingent, was appointed the regional commander of the French Army. His orders were to keep the peace, to help the new counter-government take charge of local affairs, and to keep the various armies apart.

Postal History of the 'Szeged' Overprint

The new Government, realizing the propaganda impact and the financial gains to be derived from stamp issues, decided to overprint 49 stamps to commemorate the "Hungarian National Government." Dr. Varjassy, the head of the 'Department of Commerce,' was put in charge. He had prior experience with the French as being instrumental in the issuance of the *Occupation Française* overprinted stamps in Arad on May 4th. All of these activities were tacitly approved by General Betancourt, who, at that time, was in control of the French Army units in Arad[1].

The printing started on June 6th in the König Printing shop in Szeged. Due to the printers' strike, the complete production could not be finished. The overprinting order was transferred to another printing shop, which couldn't complete it, either! Next, the order was returned to the König shop, where it was finished at last. The overprinting was accomplished on an American type flatbed machine. The printing was a two-step process. First, the top 50 stamps

of a sheet were overprinted, then the lower half 50 stamps. Occasionally, two color hues of the 'red' overprinting exist per sheet, since the top half was always in a cinnabar shade and the lower half in carmine. Sometimes the green is a darker shade on the top half than on the bottom. The printing plates incorporated a lot of faults in addition to the many printing errors due to the primitive conditions under which the stamps were printed[2]. These will be discussed in a follow-up article. The issue was reviewed previously by M. Zinmeister in the **Western Stamp Collector**[3], as well as by Dr. Leslie Ettre in several articles published in the **News of Hungarian Philately**[4].

The 49 stamps[5], which were issued on June 26, 1919 to the post offices of Szeged, were rarely used on *bone fide* correspondence. Covers with these stamps are rare and all of them are philatelic in origin.

The Overprint Types

The Type 1 overprint was applied to the Harvester, Charles IV, Zita, War Relief, Harvesters/Köztársaság, and Harvester Magyar Posta stamps. A sub-variety with two diamonds to cover values exists.

The Type 2 overprint was applied to the Parliament stamps. A sub-variety with squares covering the value exists.

The Type 3 overprint was applied to the postage due stamps. A sub-variety with Porto 50 and Porto 100 f exists on the 2f Sürgös stamp.

There are many plate errors due to the hasty printing conditions, including missing letters and numerals.

There exist shifted, inverted and trial overprints on stamps. The faked overprints are plentiful as well. Genuine articles bear guarantee marks by Jenö Ács, Mór Székely, and Brooks. To make authentication confusing, *some* of the stamps backstamped by the notorious forger PAPE are also good!

The *Magyar Nemzeti Kormány* Overprints of Szeged Issued June 26, 1919.

Altogether, 49 different stamps were overprinted. Many very clever fakes exist. A genuine complete set would be very rare since only 300 are possible! Carmine, cinnabar, olive green, and dark green shades of overprinting ink were used. There are many varieties of letter types, missing letters, numerals, etc. Vertical pairs of stamps from the 5th and 6th rows, showings a shift in typesetting and color differences, are valuable. Trial prints in different colors and inverted prints were also created. (I will discuss the other oddities in the next article.)

- *Table I. Listing of Overprinted Stamps*.

#	Scott #	Basic Stamp	Face Value	OP Color	Quantity	Printing Shop	Comments
1	P9	Newspaper	2f	G	48,200	I	invert
2	E3	Special Delivery	2f	R	3,700	I & II	
3	B61	War Relief III	10f	G	47,200	I	
4	B62		15f	R	10,400	I & II	invert
5	B63		40f	G	4,000	I	
6	225	Harvesters	2f	G	48,260	I	R = trial print
7	226		3f	G	51,400	I	R = trial print invert, double print

8	227		5f	R	14,300	I & II	G = trial print
9	228		6f	R	900	I & II	
10	229		15f	R	11,300	I & II	G = trial print
11	232	Parliament	50f	R	2,100	I	
12	233		75f	R	9,700	I	
13	234		80f	R	2,200	I	
14	235		1K	G	18,000	I	
15	236		2K	R	8,600	I	
16	237		3K	R	5,500	I	
17	238		5K	R	400	I	invert
18	239		10K	R	400	I	
19	241		10K / 1K	G	5,000	I	
20	242	Charles IV	10f	G	16,400	I	invert
21	243		20f	R	66,400	I & II	G = trial print
22	244		25f	R	500	I & II	
23	245	Zita	40f	R	3,500	I & II	
24	B64	War Relief / Köztársaság	40f	G	2,600	I	
25	246	Harvesters / Köztársaság	3f	G	700	I	*Magyar* inverted (7 !)
26	247		4f	R	3,600	I & II	
27	248		5f	R	1,600	I & II	
28	249		6f	R	2,700	I & II	
29	250		10f	G	1,200	I & II	
30	253		20f	R	500	I & II	
31	259		20f/2f	G	50,700	I	'20' double print
32	256		40f	R	17,400	I & II	
33	258	Parliament/ Köztársaság	3K	R	800	I	
34	251	Charles IV/ Köztársaság	10f	G	1,300	I	
35	252		15f	R	4,900	I & II	
36	254		20f	R	300	II	
37	255		25f	R	2,000	I & II	
38	257	Zita / Köztársaság	50f	R	22,200	I & II	
39	240	Harvesters	45f/3f	G	50,000	I	Open 4 (1,500)
40	261	Harvesters / Magyar Posta	20f	R	400	I & II	
41	262		25f	R	22,800	I & II	G = trial print
42	J51	Postage Due	2f	R	13,000	I & II	G = trial print
43	J52		6f	R	4,100	I	
44	J53		10f	R	10,600	I	
45	J54		12f	R	8,400	I	
46	J55		20f	R	6,500	I	
47	J56		30f	R	4,400	I	

48	J57	Sürgös/Special Delivery	50f/2f	R	15,000	I	
49	J58		100f/2f	R	15,000	I	

- *Table II. Printing Errors and Essay stamps.*

# (see Table I)	Basic Stamp	Face Value	OP Color	Quantity	Comments
7 i	Harvesters	3f	G	100	inverted
17 i	Parliament	5K	R	10	inverted
20 i	Charles IV	10f	G	100	inverted
1 e	Newspaper	2f	G	100	*Magyar* inverted
25 e	Harvesters / Köztársaság	3f	G	7	*Magyar* inverted
7 d	Harvesters	3f	G	100	double
31 d	Harvesters / Köztársaság	20f/2f	G	100	double '20'
39 o	Harvesters	45f/3f	G	1,500	open '4'
6 t	Harvesters	2f	R	100	trial print
7 t		3f	R	100	trial print
7 t i		3f	R	100	inverted trial print
8 t		5f	G	100	trial print
10 t		15f	G	100	trial print
21 t	Charles IV	20f	G	100	trial print
41 t	Harvesters / Magyar Posta	25f	G	100	trial print
42 t	Postage due	2f	G	100	trial print

- *Type II Overprint*

According to the Ács monograph, the 'red' overprint is always a shade of cinnabar while the carmine overprints are fakes. The 1K and 10K/1K was overprinted with two shades of green: the top half of the sheet was olive green; the bottom half, dark green. This last one also had been overprinted with the numeral "10" and a blue square on either side to cover the old value "1."

Footnotes:

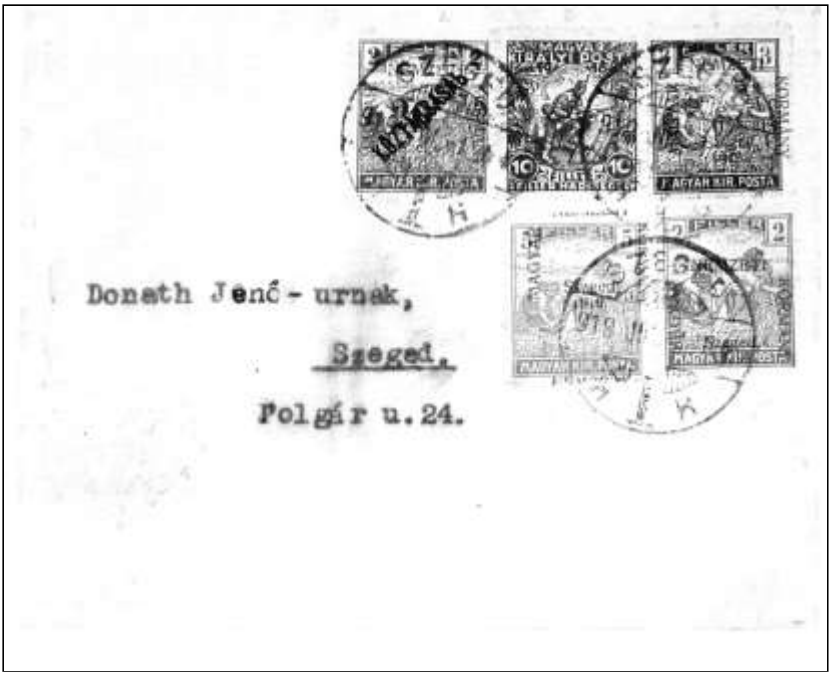
[1] Betancourt in **Journal Philatelique Suisse** #12, 1938.

[2] Surányi, László, *Az 1919-es szegedi bélyegkiadás*, **Philatelica** 82/1, 1982.

[3] Marian Carne Zinmeister in **Western Stamp Collector**, 1948. Reviewed in the **News of Hungarian Philately**, Jan. 1971.

[4] Ettre, Dr. Leslie S., **News of Hungarian Philately**, March 1972, p. 11.

[5] Ács, Jenõ, **Katalog und Beschreibung der *Magyar Nemzeti Kormány, Szeged 1919***, Szeged, 1920.



Scarce Local Cover with Szeged Overprints, June 1919.

Trial Print of the Magyar Nemnzeti Kormány Type I Overprint with Diamonds

Example of the Villány Postmaster Provisional Overprint from the Profila Auction Catalog

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HUNGARIAN POSTAL RATES FOR THE YEAR 2000

(US $1 = ~ HUF 272-)

/Information in the table was compiled from the website of the Hungarian Post Office by Csaba L. Kohalmi/

New Hungarian Postal Rates	**1 Jan 2000**				
	Local	Distance	Abroad[1]	Europe	Other Destinations
Standard letter[2] to 30gm	29.-	34.-	32.-[3]	110.-[3]	120.-[3]
Letter up to 100gm	50.-	54.-	210.-	210.-	230.-
Letter up to 250gm	-	-	500.-	500.-	520.-
Letter up to 350gm	70.-	74.-	-	-	-
Letter up to 500gm	82.-	85.-	950.-	950.-	990.-
Letter up to 1000gm	-	-	1.860.-	1.860.-	1.970.-
Letter up to 2000gm	114.-	114.-	2.840.-	2.840.-	3.080.-
Post Card	26.-	28.-	28.-	80.-	90.-
Printed matter up to 20gm	26.-	30.-	80.-	80.-	100.-
Printed matter up to 50gm	32.-	36.-	-	-	-
Printed matter up to 100gm	43.-	50.-	150.-	200.-	210.-
Printed matter up to 150gm	-	-	220.-	270.-	280.-
Printed matter up to 250gm	-	-	330.-	400.-	410.-
Printed matter up to 350gm	55.-	60.-	-	-	-
Printed matter up to 500gm	80.-	84.-	620.-	780.-	810.-
Printed matter up to 1,000gm	-	-	1.480.-	1.480.-	1.540.-
Printed matter up to 2,000gm	214.-[4]	214.-[4]	2.400.-	2.590.-	3.080.-
Books & Periodicals up to 20gm	26.-	30.-	80.-	70.-	85.-
Books & Periodicals up to 50gm	32.-	36.-	-	-	-
Books & Periodicals up to 100gm	43.-	50.-	150.-	175.-	185.-
Books & Periodicals up to 150gm	55.-	60.-	220.-	240.-	250.-
Books & Periodicals up to 250gm	-	-	330.-	360.-	370.-
Books & Periodicals up to 350gm	80.-	84.-	-	-	-
Books & Periodicals up to 500gm	214.-	214.-	620.-	710.-	740.-
Books & Periodicals up to 1,000gm	-	-	1.210.-	1.350.-	1.400.-
Books & Periodicals up to 2,000gm	214.-	214.-	2.400.-	2.370.-	2.800.-
Books & Periodicals up to 3,000gm	-	-	3.600.-	3.600.-	4.200.-
Books & Periodicals up to 4,000gm	-	-	4.800.-	4.800.-	5.500.-
Books & Periodicals up to 5,000gm	-	-	6.000.-	6.490.-	7.660.-
Small parcel to 250gm	Domestic:		420.-	420.-	430.-
Small parcel to 500gm	200.-		700.-	7000.-	780.-
Small parcel to 1000gm	200.-		1.310.-	1.310.-	1.560.-
Small parcel to 2000gm	200.-		2.620.-	2.620.-	3.080.-
	Delivered		Customer Pickup		Add'l Oversize
Domestic parcel up to 2kg	320.-		320.-		160.-/160.-[5]
Domestic parcel up to 5 kg	360.-		360.-		180.-/180.-[5]
Domestic parcel up to 10 kg	400.-		360.-		200.-/180.-[5]
Domestic parcel up to 15 kg	450.-		400.-		225.-/200.-[5]
Domestic parcel up to 20 kg	500.-		450.-		250.-/225.-[5]
Domestic parcel up to 25 kg	550.-		500.-		275.-/250.-[5]
Domestic parcel up to 30 kg	600.-		550.-		300.-/275.-[5]

	Domestic	Abroad	Domestic
Registration	83.-	280.-	128.-
Express	160.-	220.-	-
Certified/Tértivevény	26.-	120.-	-
Air Mail surcharge [6]	letters & post cards: 16.- for each 10gm increment		

Footnotes:

[1] The "Abroad" category refers to the countries bordering on Hungary: Austria, Slovakia, Ukraine, Rumania, Jugoslavia, and Slovenia.

[2] The "Standard Envelope" dimensions are 114 x 162 mm (minimum) and 110 x 220 mm (maximum).

[3] The tariffs listed apply for the standard letter abroad, to the rest of Europe or overseas addresses to up a weight of 20gm.

[4] This rate applies to printed matter delivered to household addresses.

[5] The fees for parcels in this column are in addition to the fees listed in the previous two columns. These charges are for oversize parcels. The first value is for delivered packages; the second value, for customer pickup of packages at a post office.

[6] The air mail surcharge is in addition to all other applicable postal fees. The air mail surcharge for printed matter, periodicals, and small parcels is HUF 16.- for each 20gm increment.

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THE FAMOUS PRODUCT OF KOCS, KOMÁROM COUNTY

In English, it's called *coach*; in French, *coche*; in German, *kutsche*; in Italian, *coccio*. The product was the light weight, four-wheeled wagon invented and produced in the village of Kocs, which is located about 11 km to the west of the larger town of Tata. French traveler Bertrandon de la Brocquiere described his travels in Hungary in 1435 in wagons whose back wheels were much larger than the front ones. The innovative carriages allowed comfortable travel at a faster speed than before with only one horse required to pull it. In Hungarian, the carriage is called *kocsi-szekér*, literally meaning *wagon from Kocs*, which was later abbreviate to *kocsi* only.

Such vehicles were already using the roads during the reign of King Sigismund (1387-1437). In the second half of the 15th century, King Matthias personally encouraged the cartwrights of Kocs to experiment with new designs. Italian historian Antonio Bonfini recorded that King Matthias traveled the extra-ordinary distance of 75 kilometers in one day in a rapid carriage, an incredible feat at the time. (Tata was the site of a hunting lodge for Hungarian royalty and its proximity to Kocs probably contributed to the market forces that allowed favorable exposure to the *kocsi*.)

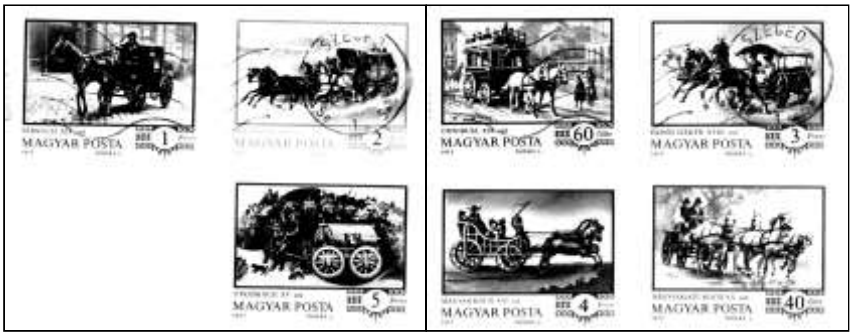
By the middle of the 16th century, the *kocsi* had appeared on the streets of Paris. Spanish historian Avila y Zuninga wrote in 1547 that "Charles V slept in his covered vehicle, called a kocsi in Hungary, whence not only the name, but the invention itself derives."

According to contemporary drawings and descriptions, King Matthias used the kocsi as the vehicle of choice for the postal system he established between Buda and Vienna. The same system of staging posts for feeding horses every 5 or 6 miles was replicated by Maria Theresia when she established the first permanent postal system in Hungary in 1749.

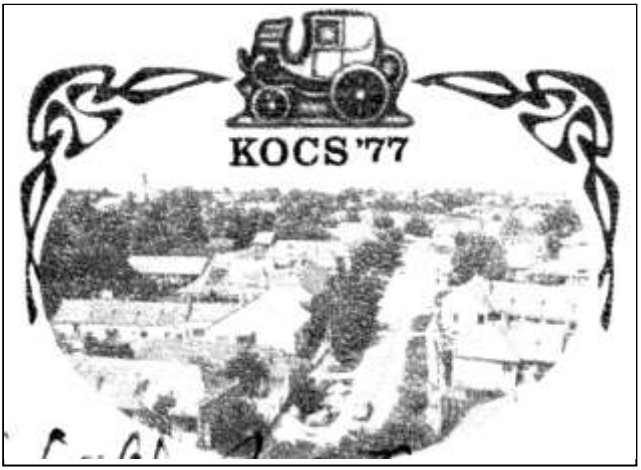
The Hungarian Post issued a set of stamps in 1977 picturing the evolution of the *kocsi* over the centuries. The cachet on the first day cover depicted a view of the village of Kocs.

*/Based on an article by Gyula Antalffy published in the **Magyar News** reprinted with the permission of the Corvina Publishing Co. in Budapest./*

Csaba L. Kohalmi



1977 Hungarian Stamp Issue Depicting the Evolution of the Hungarian 'Kocsi'



Modern Day View of the Village of Kocs

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SUPPLEMENT TO THE CONCORDANCE OF CATALOG NUMBERS

A two-age Supplement to the Concordance of Catalog Numbers for Occupation Issues is included with this issue of the newsletter. The listing was prepared by SHP member Anthony B. Muller and records the different catalog numbers for the issues of Western Hungary (Lajtabánság) from 1921. */Ed./*

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*/The following article printed on pp. 24-25 and authored by Mr. Andrew Cronin also appeared in **The Postrider**, issue #46./*

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A PHILATELIC DOCUMENT FROM COUNT JENÖ ZICHY'S EXPEDITION TO CENTRAL ASIA

by **Andrew Cronin**

An auction lot listed as a registered cover sent from Hungary to Kazan' (Russia) aroused the curiosity of the author, and his tendered bid was successful. The registered cover originally contained a letter sent from Dicsöszentmárton, Transylvania, (now Tîrnăveni in Rumania). It was posted on 16 May 1898 and arrived in Kazan' on 28 May 1898 (the arrival canceller bears the date 11 May 1898 in accordance with the Old Style calendar). As can be seen from the illustration below, it was addressed in French and Russian to *Mr. Ernest Csiki, Member of the Expedition of Count Zichy, at the Hotel de France in Kazan, Russia*. The author set off at a gallop for the Toronto Public Library and consulted the Hungarian encyclopedia, **Révai Nagy Lexikona**, Vol. 19, pp. 673-75 published in Budapest in 1926. The entries under Zichy showed that this was a famous Hungarian family of nobles, whose origins dated back to 1260 AD. Count Jenö Zichy was born at Szentmihály on 5 July 1837 and died in Merano, Italy, on Christmas Day, 1906.

He served in the National Assembly both as a government party representative as well as an opposition member. Because of his legislative efforts to further Hungarian industry and public sector aid to commerce, he earned the title 'the Industrial Count.' He toured Western Europe to study agriculture and irrigation techniques, which he proposed to apply to back home. He also worked to improve the Hungarian education system. He organized his first expedition to Asia in the 1880s to explore the Hungarians' origins. His second expedition in 1898 included archeologist Béla Pósta, zoologist Ernö Csiki (to whom the envelope was addressed), as well as János Jankó, and József Pápay.

The route of the expedition carried Zichy and his small group through Tiflis on 11 April 1898 to Baku by rail, then on to Kazan', Perm', Tyumen', Tobolsk, Ufa, Omsk, Krasnoyarsk, and Irkuts. At this point, the expedition crossed Mongolia's Gobi Desert to arrive in Peking. It returned to Budapest on 18 December 1898. The findings about the Asian roots of the Hungarian peoples were published in several periodicals. Zichy was elected to the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and he proceeded to found a museum with ethnographic and industrial arts departments.

Actually, Count Jenö Zichy was not the first investigator of the origins of the Hungarian race in Central Asia and Siberia. His foremost predecessor was the famous explorer and Orientalist, Ármin Vámbéry (1832-1913). A prolific author in several European languages, he wrote **A magyarok eredete/Origins of the Hungarians** published in Budapest in 1882. This was followed by the autobiographical account in English, **Vámbéry - His Life and Adventures** published in London in 1883.

The moral of the story is that there must be other covers floating around to and from the members of the expedition as they journeyed across Siberia. In short, we have to keep searching for related postal history. One thing is certain, it pays to have a working knowledge of the Hungarian language. The author would be interested in learning the nature of the hand-

written markings of what appears to be a large number '16' and smaller numbers '48/7' on the front side of the cover. The rate paid with the 4 x 5kr black numeral envelope issue stamps is correct for a foreign registered letter (10kr single weight letter to a UPU member country plus 10kr registration fee).

Address Side of the the Envelope Posted on 16 May 1898 at Dicsö-Szent-Márton and Addressed to Mr. Ernest Csiki, Member de l'Expedition de Mr. le Comte E. Zichy, Kasan, Hotel de France, Russie.

Back Side of the Envelope with 4 x 5kr Envelope-design Stamps Used for Postage and Kasan Arrival CDS dated 18 May 1898. (A handwritten note in lower right corner is dated May 28th, which probably is the date the letter was picked up at the hotel.)

AIRMAIL NOTES: A PECULIAR COVER FROM 1939

by **Dr. Paul J. Szilagyi**

A two-sided registered letter - and it is *one letter* - traveled in an easterly direction twice around the world. It started out from New York via the first flight of the Trans-Atlantic Air Mail Service (FAM 18, postage paid: 45¢) through Marseille arriving there in two days. Two more days later, it was in Budapest. The letter was then turned inside out and re-posted on the next day with Hungarian stamps (6P40f) for the air mail trip to the United States via Asia. It received backstamps in Hong-Kong, and in Honolulu, Hawaii, and arrived in Springfield, Illinois, on June 19th. (US "Clipper" service was used between Hong Kong and San Francisco). The cover was turned again, re-stamped with 45¢ US postage and sent to Hungary via the first Northern Transatlantic air mail service of the British Imperial Airways (FAM 18) to Southampton, England. From there it was forwarded to Budapest. The recipient, Mr. Fuchs, applied another 6P40f Hungarian postage and sent the well-traveled cover back to Springfield, Illinois, using the same Asian route as before. The cover arrived at its final destination in Springfield on July 29, 1939. A total of 30 postmarks had been applied to the cover. Some of these are duplicates. It also received two first flight cachets. The postage paid (US$ 0.90 and Hungarian 12,80P) also represents a sizeable investment in the pursuit of aero-philately. The three-part letter had been folded and re-folded so only the address side and the side with the cancellations showed. It was probably sent to New York under separate cover. In the end, this cover had made two trans-Atlantic and two trans-Pacific flights in about ten weeks of traveling!

The Chronology of the Cancellations on the Cover

City	Type	Ref. #	Date
New York GPO (Registered)	Departing	1	20 May 1939
Marseille Gare Avion	Transit	2	22 May 1939
Budapest 20 Repülötér	Transit	3	24 May 1939
Budapest 62	Arrival	4	24 May 1939
Légi Posta Budapest 72	Departing	5	25 May 1939
Budapest 20 Repülötér	Transit	6	25 May 1939
Hong Kong	Transit	7	3 June 1939
Honolulu	Transit	8	14 June 1939
Springfield, Illinois, Registry	Transit	9	19 June 1939
Springfield, Illinois, Capitol Sta.	Arrival	10	19 June 1939
New York GPO (Registered)	Departing	11	24 June 1939
Budapest 20 Repülötér	Transit	12	29 June 1939
Budapest 62	Arrival	13	29 June 1939
Légi Posta Budapest 72	Departing	14	3 July 1939
Budapest 20 Repülötér	Transit	15	3 July 1939
Hong Kong	Transit	16	11 July 1939
Honolulu	Transit	17	25 July 1939
Springfield, Illinois, Registry	Transit	18	28 July 1939
Springfield, Illinois, Capitol Sta.	Arrival	19	29 July 1939

First Around the World Trip, Cancellations 1 through 10.

Second Around the World Trip, Cancellations 11 through 19.

plus the APS research medal for *German World War I Military and Occupation Mail from Allied an Enemy Territory*, both at the Okpex exhibition. **Alfred Kugel** also won a vermeil and the AAPE award of honor at last March's Colopex with *Postal History of the American Forces in China 1900-1941*; a gold and the APS 1900-1940 medal along with the American Philatelic Congress award at the Philatelic Show with *Philatelic Affects from the Breakup of the Austro-Hungarian Empire 1918-1923*; and a gold and the APS 1900-1940 medal at Nojex with *Austro-Hungarian Forces in World War I*. **Stephan I. Frater** won a vermeil at the Philatelic Show with *Hungary, The Envelope Issue, 1874-1900*. **Donald E. Green** won the grand award, a gold medal, the American Revenue Association grand and gold, the APS pre-1900 medal, and the Bureau Issue Association statue of freedom award at Westpex with *Patent Medicine Companies of the Civil War and Reconstruction Era*.

We're pleased to extend a warm welcome to our newest member, Mr. **Frank G. Kotsy** of St. Charles, IL.

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LETTERS TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Alan,

I received the diploma and the letter of appreciation from the Society. Thank you; I will treasure it. About your request of reporting on exhibitions, you are aware that I am not going to Vienna. My participation in the Budapest show is very much in the air but I will definitely be in Providence for the APS show and I am sure we will meet. I look forward to seeing you, perhaps with Annette, as well as the other members of the SHP.

Best regards, **Stephan Frater**

To the Executive Board,

I just want to thank everyone for the certificate I received. I wanted to thank everyone for the thought of remembering me and the service I provided to the society over the last twenty-two years. Thank you again.

Sincerely, **Tom Phillips**

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SOCIETY BUSINESS

- **Ted Johnson**, SHP Treasurer, reported that our Society membership stood at 166 members as of July. Unfortunately, several members have not paid their dues for the current year. Those members have received reminders in June along with the Mar-Jun newsletter. If you don't know whether you're in arrears or not, please check the mailing label on the envelope in which you received this issue. The top line will indicate the calendar year for which you had last paid your membership fee.
- This issue is going to press before the APS Stampshow in Providence, RI at the end of August. A report of our annual Society gathering will be published in the next issue of **The News**.
- This year marks several significant philatelic anniversaries in addition to the millennium of Hungarian Statehood. They are the 150th anniversary of the introduction of postage stamps in Hungary (Austrian Post in Hungary), and the 100th anniversary of the Turul-design issue.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Dr. Andrew Munster's wonderful Second Inflation cover with a single franking on the 100,000 Bpengö 'dove' stamp (issued on July 11th and valid for use as a single franking on a domestic distance letter during the 24th rate period for just one day) was featured in the *Letters to the Editor* section of the May issue of the **American Philatelist**. The June issue of the same magazine carried a brief description by **István Gazda** of the greatest Hungarian rarity, the 1867 red 3kr coarse-beard error. Dr. **Paul J. Szilagyi**'s comments regarding mixed frankings used on covers during the Serbian occupation of Baranya were published in the June 2000 issue of **Bélyegvilág**.

The Documentary and Revenue Stamp Section of Mabéosz celebrated the Millennium of Hungarian Statehood with a commemorative sheetlet depicting the 10 pengö consular visa stamp from 1930. The same design was used on the color cover of the 2000/1-2 issue of **Okmánybélyeg/Revenue Stamp**, the Section's semi-annual newsletter. Congratulations are in order to the group for promoting the revenue stamp collecting specialty. SHP member **Gábor Voloncs** is an officer of the Section.

THE NEWS OF HUNGARIAN PHILATELY

2000. I. negyedév

Az Egyesült Államokbeli Magyar Filatéliai Társaság folyóiratának első negyedévi számában az elnök megdicséri az új magyar bélyegkatalógust, különösen annak klasszikus fejezetét, majd tájékoztat a Hunphilex 2000 kiállításról, ami ünnepinek ígérkezik, végül elbúcsúzott az elnöki funkciótól, amit 20 éven át töltött be. Dr. Szilágyi a magyar Adria-part szigeteit – Arbe (Rab), Veglia és Cherso – veszi sorra, amelyek a középkorban, majd 1809-től Cherso és 1867-től Veglia is Magyarországhoz tartozott 1918 novemberéig, amikor Gabriel d'Annunzio megszállta ezeket Fiumével együtt, s ennek bélyegkiadások is őrzik emlékét. Kőhalmi Csaba érdekes görög és olasz bélyeg-hungarikákat mutat be, amelyeken Szokolyi Alajos látható az 1896. évi athéni olympia 100 m-es futás startján. A következő írás a zagyvapálfalvai ideiglenes bélyegekről ir – Sipos Józsefné cikke (FSz 1979/11. alapján) – s a 6 ismert futott levélből bemutat 1 belföldi normál és 2 ajánlott küldeményt ábrán is. Aktuális érdekességek a lapban az Erzsébet királynét ábrázoló kiadványok, valamint a múlt év decemberi HUNGAROFILA aukció adópengős ritkaságának az ismertetése. Egybefoglalták a társaság eddigi 2 alapdokumentumát: az alap- és a működési szabályt XIX. cikkelybe. Megismerhetjük az új elnökségre tett személyi javaslatot is. A lapot a szerkesztő jegyzetei; az 1999 IV. negyedévi számban közzétett „Bécsi bélyegzés magyar bélyegen" témájú íráshoz érkezett hozzászólások; az új elnökjelöltt, H. Alan Hoovernek a társaságról, a tagokról és a magyar filatéliához való kötődésről szóló elmélkedése, végül a magyar bélyegújdonságok ismertetése zárja. A lapnak 2 melléklete is van: az önálló melléklet egyrészt a Kárpát-Ukrajna bélyegek 6 katalógus számozásának szinopszisát adja közre P. Bylan összeállításában; másrészt az I. és II. világháború utáni helyi és megszállási felülnyomatok 3 katalógus (M, Sc, Zu) számozásának összehangolását végzi el Técsy Miklós. A betét a társaság 2000. május 1-jei aukciójának listáját közli.

dr. Sooky Dezső

A single-use $1 Surrender at Saratoga US stamp on an air mail cover to Hungary was used to illustrate the article, *Solo Uses Tough to Find*, which appeared in the June 6th issue of **Linn's Stamp News**. The cover was posted by SHP member Professor **Alan Soble**'s ex-spouse.

I received a friendly note from Professor Varro Tyler following the reprinting of his *Focus on Forgeries* in the previous issue of **The News**. Professor Tyler thanked me for the photocopies of several articles on various Hungarian forgeries that I sent him. He noted that he corresponded heavily with our member **Dr. Leslie Ettre** in the 1970s regarding the overprinted occupation issues. He also commended the efforts **Dr. Paul Szilagyi**, et al., who have been researching this area recently.

The Jan-Mar 2000 issue of **The News** was reviewed by Dr. Dezsö Sooky in the May 2000 edition of **Bélyegvilág** (reprinted on the left).

Slovakia commemorated the 200th anniversary of the birth of Ányos Jedlik, Hungarian inventor, with a single stamp featuring his portrait. Jedlik was born in Szimö/Zemné, a town about 12km from Érsekújvár/Nové Zámky. It's too bad that the postal directorates of Hungary and Slovakia could not come to terms with a joint issue for this occasion.

Csaba L. Kohalmi

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2000 NEW ISSUES

Issue Date: 20 March 2000

National Parks

Face value: HUF 29, 34. Size: 45 x 28.3mm.

Designer: Pál Varga. The designs depict the flora/fauna of the Fertö-Hanság Park established in 1991 in northwestern Hungary and the Duna-Dráva Park established in 1996 in south central Hungary.

Production details: Printed using offset by the Banknote Printers, Ltd. in sheets of 50 stamps. The quantity issued was 500,000 sets. Both stamps were also issued in booklet format containing 10 stamps each.

Easter

Face value: HUF 26, 28. Size: 40x26.7mm (HUF 26), 30x31.7mm (HUF 28).

Designer: Szilvia Lázár, Tibor Raszler (HUF 26) & Júlia Gyüre (HUF 28).

The designs depict colored and decorated Easter eggs, the decorations of which are a deeply seated Hungarian folk custom.

Production details: Printed using offset by the Banknote Printers, Ltd. in sheets of 50 stamps. The quantity issued was 1,700,000 of each value.

Non-Postal Souvenir Sheets and Postal Stationery

- Mabéosz issues a very attractive sheet in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Turul stamp series. It reproduced a vintage color post card view of the Royal Palace in Budapest and included the famous 1913 35f/50f Turul error print. A similar sheet appeared in honor of Hunphilex 2000 picturing King St. Stephen and a post card view of Székesfehérvár.
- Philatelia Hungarica issued a sheet in honor of its 50th anniversary. The sheet reproduced a pair of Turul and a pair of Francis Joseph stamps.
- The 150th anniversary of the post in Sopron was honored with a HUF 28 commemorative postal card issued on 21 January 2000.
- Vértesfila issued a sheet depicting the Kamalduli Cloister of Majk founded by Count József Esterházy.
- The organized philatelists of Veszprém issued a commemorative sheet picturing Hungary's first and last queens, Queen Gisella (King St. Stephen's wife) and Queen Zita (King Carl IV's wife). Historically, Veszprém was seat of power of Hungary's queens.
- Philatelia Hungarica issued a pair of sheet depicting locomotives. The first sheet pictured four steam locomotives; the second, four narrow-gauge railway engines. The pair of sheets sold for HUF 600.
- The Second World Convention on Hungarian Stamps and Postal History sponsored by MAFITT in connection with Hunphilex 2000 was commemorated with a souvenir sheet the 25kr value from the 1871 lithographed and the engraved series.

2000 NEW ISSUES, Continued

Issue Date: 3 May 2000

50th Anniversary of the Ferihegy Airport

Face value: HUF 136. Size: 33 x 26mm.

Designer: László Dudás. The design depicts an Li-2 aircraft.

Production details: Printed using offset in sheets of 100 by the Banknote Printers, Ltd. in quantities required to meet postal demand.

Issue Date: 6 May 2000

CEPT - Europa

Face value: HUF 34, 54. Size: 30.5 x 40mm.

Designer: Miklós Forgács (HUF 34) and Jean-Paul Cousins (HUF 54). The first value depicts a woman with flowing hair symbolizing Europe. The second value shows children using stars to construct a tower.

Production details: Printed using offset in sheets of 50 by the Banknote Printers, Ltd. in an edition of 200,000 sets.

Animals of the Continents - Australia

Face value: HUF 26, 28, 83, 90. Souvenir sheet: HUF 110. Stamp size: 30.5 x 40mm. Souvenir sheet size: 117.5 x 71mm.

Designer: Imre Benedek. The designs depict the animals of Australia.

Production details: Printed using offset in an edition of 200,000 sets and 120,000 souvenir sheets by the Banknote Printers, Ltd.

Expo 2000 - Hanover

Face value: HUF 80. Size: 40 x 30.5mm.

Designer: András Andor. The design depicts engineer and businessman István Türr and a view of the Corinth Canal.

Production details: Printed using offset in sheets of 50 by the Banknote Printers, Ltd. The quantity of stamps printed was 200,000.

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EXCHANGE PARTNERS WANTED: I am looking for philatelic material related to air warfare in World War II. I am especially interested in stamp issues of the Caribbean and Pacific island nations depicting WWII aircraft, as well as air servicemen's fieldpost and POW-post (Stalag Luft). In exchange, I can offer Hungarian and European philatelic material. **Jánosik József, Budapest-Óbuda, Harrer Pál u. 18. IV. 21., H-1033 Hungary.**

SALES CIRCUIT MATERIAL WANTED: The *Society for Hungarian Philately* operates a sales circuit of Hungarian philatelic material for its members residing in the United States. SHP members can participate in the sales circuit at no additional charges as a buyer, seller, or both. The circuit is actively looking for all kinds of Hungarian stamps, covers, and postal stationery to offer to prospective buyers. **Enhance your collection - Sell your surplus items!** For information on how to submit material as a seller or how to become a buyer, contact:
H. Alan Hoover, 6070 Poplar Spring Drive, Norcross, GA 30092, tel: **(770) 840-8766,** e-mail: **h.alan.hoover@lycosmail.com**

150 YEARS OF POSTAGE STAMP USAGE IN HUNGARY

100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE *TURUL* STAMP ISSUE